

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 160384
ORIGIN SP-02

INFO OCT-01 INR-10 ISO-00 ONY-00 INRE-00 /013 R

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 160384

FOR S/P DIRECTOR LAKE ONLY FROM KREISBERG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY ITEMS

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION HERE IS AN ITEM FROM THE SUMMARY
(JUNE 23) BASED ON FBIS ITEMS ALONG WITH INR COMMENT:

TEXT:

IN A JUNE 22 AUTHORITATIVE SOVIET GOVERNMENT STATEMENT
MOSCOW STRONGLY DEFENDED ITS POLICY IN AFRICA AND SHARPLY
CRITICIZED "LEADING NATO COUNTRIES, HEADED BY THE USA" FOR
CAUSING THE GROWTH OF TENSION ON THE CONTINENT AND ACTING
AS THE "GENDARME OF AFRICA." FOCUSING HEAVILY ON THE RECENT
EVENTS IN ZAIRE, THE STATEMENT:

--ASSERTED THAT DETENTE IS NOT A "CHARTER OF IMMUNITY FOR
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CORRUPT REGIMES OR PRIVILEGES INHERITED FROM THE COLONIAL
PAST" AND CHARGED THAT THE US, WHILE MAKING "HYPOCRITICAL"
DECLARATIONS ABOUT DETENTE'S INDIVISIBILITY, IS ACTING CON-
TRARY TO THAT PRINCIPLE;

--WARNED THAT THE EMERGENCE OF "COLLECTIVE AND AGGRESSIVE

POLITICAL-MILITARY ACTIONS" BY THE WEST UNDER US GUIDANCE AND THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE PAN-AFRICAN FORCE IN ZAIRE REPRESENT A PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS DEVELOPMENT; AND

--CHARGED THAT THE WEST'S "VICIOUS ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN" AND SHAMELESS SLANDER OF THE USSR, CUBA AND OTHER "SOCIALIST" STATES IS DESIGNED TO SOW MISTRUST IN THE USSR AND OTHER "SOCIALIST" STATES AND TO JUSTIFY THE WEST'S INTERVENTION IN ZAIRE.

WITH RESPECT TO SOVIET POLICY, THE STATEMENT DENIED THAT SOVIET AND CUBAN AID TO ANGOLA, ETHIOPIA AND THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS CONSTITUTES A THREAT TO PEACE AND SPECIFICALLY REITERATED SUPPORT FOR THE RHODESIANPARTIOTIC FRONT AND SWAPO. MORE GENERALLY, IT PLEDGED THAT THE USSR WOULD CONTINUE TO DO "EVERYTHING DEPENDING ON IT" AND WOULD COOPERATE WITH OTHERS IN EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT AN END TO "IMPERIALIST" INTERFERENCE IN AFRICA, TO PROMOTE "EQUAL RELATIONS WITH ALL STATES," AND TO ASSURE THEIR INDEPENDENCE AND FREE EXISTENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH UN PRINCIPLES.

INR COMMENT (UNDERLINE): THE STATEMENT IS CLEARLY MOSCOW'S AUTHORITATIVE RESPONSE TO RECENT WESTERN, PARTICULARLY US, CRITICISM OF SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA. IT PUTS FORTH NO NEW POLICY INITIATIVES, AND ITS STRONG CONFIDENTIAL

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DEFENSE OF SOVIET ACTIVISM AND SHARP ATTACK ON US POLICY INDICATE MOSCOW'S DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE THE PURSUIT OF ITS INTERESTS IN AFRICA. NEVERTHELESS, THE STATEMENT ALSO EXPLICITLY EXPRESSES SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH THOSE WHO ACCEPT SHAREDPRINCIPLES AND THUS CAREFULLY KEEPS OPEN POSSIBILITIES FOR FUTURE EFFORTS TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES.

2. ALSO FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS A RELATED ANALYSIS ITEM FROM TODAY SUMMARY.

TEXT:

THE SOVIETS ARE GIVING A FULL AND LARGELY FACTUAL ACCOUNT OF THE INITIAL US "OFFICIAL" RESPONSE TO THE JUNE 17 PRAVDA ARTICLE. THEY ARE EMPHASIZING CONSTRUCTIVE ELEMENTS AND KEEPING CRITICISM TO A MINIMUM SO FAR. PRIOR TO THE SECRETARY'S TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, THEIR PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION GAVE HEAVY PLAY TO THOSE WESTERN REACTIONS WHICH SUPPORTED PRAVDA'S CENSURE OF THE US.

INITIAL SOVIET MEDIA EXPLOITATION OF THE PRAVDA ARTICLE EMPHASIZED THE SERIOUSNESS OF ITS "WARNING," AS WELL AS DOMESTIC US CRITICISM OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S ALLEGED POLICY CHANGES, WHICH HAVE BURDENED US-SOVIET RELATIONS. THEMES STRESSED WERE:

--THE COMMENTARY REPRESENTED A SERIOUS SOVIET ANSWER TO THE PRESIDENT'S ANNAPOLIS SPEECH AND TO THE DELIBERATELY "TOUGH" LINE THE US HAS ADOPTED TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION;

--WASHINGTON IS CAREFULLY STUDYING THE ARTICLE, AND AN OFFICIAL RESPONSE WILL BE FORTHCOMING;

--MANY US POLITICAL LEADERS (SENATOR MCGOVERN AND OTHERS) CONFIDENTIAL

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ARE SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY CHANGES, WHICH ARE FRAUGHT WITH DANGER FOR THE US AND THE WORLD;

--AS FAR AS THE SOVIETS ARE CONCERNED, THE DOOR REMAINS OPEN FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF A SALT AGREEMENT.

EMBASSY MOSCOW REPORTED THAT TV REPORTING FOR HOME AUDIENCES WENT FURTHER IN CRITICISM OF THE ADMINISTRATION THAN THE PRESS. IT ACCUSED THE PRESIDENT OF ACTING AS THOUGH HE WERE NOT BOUND BY THE VLADIVOSTOK AGREEMENT AND CLAIMED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION SEEMED TO BE MOVING TOWARD AN "ALLIANCE" WITH THE ENEMIES OF DETENTE (READ CHINA). HOWEVER, THE EMBASSY NOTED THAT THE PRC ANGLE HAS NOT BEEN EXPLOITED AS EXTENSIVELY AS OTHER THEMES AND, WHEN USED, HAS BEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF DENOUNCING DR. BRZEZINSKI'S PRC TRIP. THE TV COVERAGE SEEMS CALCULATED TO BE EVOCATIVE TO A RUSSIAN AUDIENCE WITH THE INTENT OF DRAMATIZING A "YELLOW PERIL" AND OF LINKING THE US TO IT.

THE SECRETARY'S REFERENCES, IN HIS HILL TESTIMONY, TO THE PRAVDA ARTICLE WERE QUOTED IN FULL AND, EXCEPT FOR THE CHARGE THAT HIS STATEMENTS ON AFRICA AND DISARMAMENT WERE "DISTORTED," THE USUAL TENDENTIOUS EDITORIALIZING HAS BEEN MISSING. INITIAL REPORTS REFER TO THE DEPARTMENT'S PRESS STATEMENT AS THE "OFFICIAL" US REPLY AND PRESENT IT FACTUALLY, OBSERVING ONLY THAT SPECIFIC ISSUES OF CONTENTION WERE NOT ADDRESSED.

3. A GOVERNMENT CAR HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO PICK YOU UP AT DULLES ON YOUR RETURN SUNDAY. HAVE A GOOD FLIGHT. VANCE

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O 241100Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 160384

FOR S/P DIRECTOR TONY LAKE

FOL STATE 160384 SENT ACTION BRUSSELS JUNE 23, 1978 REPEATED
TO YOU QUOTE

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--MANY US POLITICAL LEADERS (SENATOR MCGOVERN AND OTHERS) ARE SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY CHANGES, WHICH ARE FRAUGHT WITH DANGER FOR THE US AND THE WORLD;

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: PHKREISBERG
Enclosure: n/a
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
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SAS ID: 2223938
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORNING SUMMARY ITEMS
TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, UR, US
To: BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8c6ea182-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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